

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00526 241502Z

46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /074 W  
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R 241358Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1401

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0526

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, RH, ZA

SUBJECT: CHITEPO FUNERAL; MUZOREWA HINTS AT "BLACK ENEMY"  
AS MURDERER

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. STATE FUNERAL WITH MILITARY HONORS WAS HELD MARCH 22  
IN LUSAKA'S ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL FOR LATE ZANU LEADER HERBERT  
CHITEPO AND OTHER TWO VICTIMS LAST WEEK'S BOMB BLAST. IN  
USUAL LAST MINUTE RUSH DIPLOMATIC CHIEFS OF MISSION WERE  
INVITED. MOST COM'S APPEARED FOR CHURCH SERVICE; SOME NON-  
AFRICAN COM'S APPARENTLY DID NOT THEN GO TO CEMETARY  
WHERE I SAW ONLY FEW INCLUDING UK, DUTCH, ROMANIAN  
AND YUGOSLAV COLLEAGUES. CHINESE AMBASSADOR WAS  
PROMINENT AT CEMETARY; THOUGH THE DEAN (DUTCH AMB)  
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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00526 241502Z

LAID WREATH ON BEHALF OF DIP CORPS, CHINESE LAID OWN

WREATH AS DID YUGOSLAV. CROWD ESTIMATED AT OVER FIVE THOUSAND WAS PRESENT AT CATHEDRAL AND LATER ACCOMPANIED BODIES TO LUSAKA'S LEOPARD'S HILL CEMETARY FOR INTERMENT. EVEN IN DEATH CHITEPO REMAINED CONTROVERSIAL, RHODESIAN AUTHORITIES HAVING TURNED DOWN REQUEST BY HIS FAMILY AND ZANU FOR PERMISSION TO BURY HIM IN RHODESIA.

2. IN GRAVESIDE SPEECHES BOTH PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND ANC CHAIRMAN BISHOP MUZOREWA REFERRED TO STILL UNIDENTIFIED CULPRITS BEHIND CHITEPO DEATH. PRESIDENT SAID CULPRITS STILL UNKNOWN BUT THAT ZAMBIA HAS RESPONSIBILITY TO TRACE THEM AND BRING THEM TO BOOK. MUZOREWA WAS MORE SPECIFIC. HE LISTED CHITEPO ASSASSAINS AS EITHER (A) WHITE ENEMY USING A WHITE AGENT, (B) WHITE ENEMY USING "JADAS ISCARIOT TYPE OF ZIMBABWEAN", OR (C) BLACK ENEMY USING BLACK AGENT" WHO MIGHT HAVE LOST VISION AND PURPOSE OF THE STRUGGLE AND IS NOW WORKING FOR NOTHING BUT SELF-INTEREST AND PERSONAL GAIN". MUZOREWA AT LATER POINT APOLOGIZED ON BEHALF OF "ALL SANE ZIMBABWEANS" FOR THOSE ZIMBABWEANS WHO HAVE SOMETIMES INSULTED, RIDICULED, AND HUMILIATED ZAMBIANS. END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

3. SATURDAY EVENING I CALLED ON BISHOP MUZOREWA AT HIS STATE HOUSE APARTMENT TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL CONDOLENCE AT CHITEPO'S DEATH. DURING CONVERSATION I SUGGESTED THAT BISHOP HIMSELF MAY BELIEVE THAT CHITEPO'S MURDERER WAS "BLACK ENEMY USING BLACK AGENT". MUZOREWA WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT BUT DID NOT DENY MY SUGGESTION. HE LATER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE TOO IS CONCERNED THAT CHITEPO DEATH MIGHT SET OFF SNOWBALL EFFECT OF VIOLENCE AND INDICATED THAT ANC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL BE LOOKING INTO THIS PROBLEM.

4. DURING FUNERAL SERVICE I ASKED TANZANIAN HICOM KATIKAZA, WHO USUALLY WELL INFORMED, FOR HIS VIEWS ABOUT CHITEPO MURDER. KATIKAZA AT FIRST REPLIED SMITH AGENTS WERE RESPONSIBLE BUT LATER ADMITTED THIS IS TANGOV PUBLIC POSITION WHICH HE MUST REPEAT. PRIVATELY, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 00526 241502Z

KATIKAZA HINTED HE TOO SUSPECTS DISSIDENT ZIMBABWE NATIONALISTS WERE INVOLVED AND INDICATED THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE ARE EXPECTED BE ARRESTED SOON IF THEY ARE NOT IN ZAMBIAN CUSTODY ALREADY.

5. COMMENT: FACT THAT ZAMBIANS AND MUZOREWA CONTINUE TO AVOID CONDEMNING SMITH REGIME FOR CHITEPO MURDER IS INDICATION WE BELIEVE OF GROWING CERTAINTY ON THEIR PARTY

THAT MURDERER PROBABLY CAME FROM WITHIN RANKS OF ANC  
ZAPU WING. AND THEY NO DOUBT ANXIOUS IN ANY EVENT  
AVOID AGGRAVATING PRESENT IMPASSE IN RHODESIAN TALKS IF  
AT ALL POSSIBLE. ZAMBIANS, WHILE OBVIOUSLY FEELING  
STRONG SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO SOLVE CHITEPO MURDER  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, MAY NEVERTHELESS DELAY MAKING  
PUBLIC SPECIFICS ABOUT THOSE WHOM IT MAY ARREST BECAUSE  
OF POTENTIAL EMBARRASSMENT THIS MIGHT CAUSE TO ANC,  
PARTICULARLY AT TIME WHEN SITHOLE ALREADY IN DETENTION  
FOR ALLEGEDLY PLOTTING MURDER OF OTHER ANC LEADERS.  
ZAMBIANS ARE THEREFORE LIKELY ACT QUIETLY AT LEAST UNTIL  
AFTER SITHOLE DETENTION HEARINGS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.  
WILKOWSKI

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